

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A laminated optical device comprising:  
a polarizing layer having a thickness of not larger than  
5  $\mu$ m; and

at least one birefringent layer laminated on said  
polarizing layer and including either a solid film of oriented  
liquid crystal or a polymer layer containing oriented liquid  
crystal.

2. A laminated optical device according to claim 1,  
wherein said polarizing layer is made of one member selected  
from the group consisting of a lyotropic liquid-crystal  
dichromatic dye, a dichromatic dye-containing liquid-crystal  
polymer and a dichromatic dye-containing lyotropic substance.

3. A laminated optical device according to claim 1,  
wherein said birefringent layer contains one member selected  
from the group consisting of discotic or nematic liquid crystal  
oriented planarly horizontally or thicknesswise obliquely,  
cholesteric liquid crystal oriented in a Grandjean texture,  
and liquid crystal nematically oriented at an angle of twist  
of from 0 to 360 degrees.

4. A laminated optical device according to claim 1,  
wherein said polarizing layer and said birefringent layer are

superposed closely on each other through an oriented film.

5. A laminated optical device according to claim 1,  
further comprising a luminance-enhancing film laminated.

6. A laminated optical device according to claim 1,  
further comprising at least one adhesive layer disposed on one  
or each of opposite surfaces.

7. A liquid-crystal display apparatus comprising:  
a liquid-crystal display panel; and  
at least one laminated optical device defined in claim  
1 and disposed on one of opposite surfaces of said liquid-crystal  
display panel.

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